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Report. Annual

REPORT

MONTANA ROOM

OF THE

NON-CIRCULATING

State Board of Examiners

AS A

Capitol Building Commission

TO THE

GOVERNOR AND TWELFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

January 2, 1911

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS:

Edwin L. Norris Governor, President
Albert J. Galen, Attorney General
A. N. Yoder, Secretary of State, Secretary

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Report of the Capitol Commission.

Office of the State Board of Examiners,
Jan. 2nd, 1911.

To the Honorable Edwin L. Norris, and
To the Twelfth Legislative Assembly of the State of Montana:

Gentlemen—On December 27, 1909, the State Board of Examiners, acting as a Capitol Commission, made full and complete report to the Eleventh Legislative Assembly, convened in special session, of its work in connection with the construction of the additions to the State Capitol building at Helena.

By the provisions of Chapter 63, Laws of 1909, this Board was empowered and directed to issue bonds, the interest and principal of which are to be paid from the Capitol Building Interest and Sinking Fund; this fund being derived from the grant made to the State of Montana, upon its admission to the Union, for public buildings at the State Capital for legislative, executive and judicial purposes. (Secs. 12 and 19 of the Enabling Act.) This fund is derived from the sale of lands embraced in said grant, from the leasing of said lands, and from the investment of funds derived from the sale and leasing of said lands, and from the investment of moneys derived therefrom.

It will be recalled that the Eleventh Legislative Assembly was convened in extraordinary session by His Excellency, Governor Edwin L. Norris, on the 7th day of December, 1909, as a result of controversy arising respecting the question of building stone which should be used in the construction of said additions. The report of this Board at that time made to the legislative assembly fully covered all of the work and proceedings of the Board up to that date, and covered and reviewed in detail the stone controversy, and therefore it is not now thought necessary or desirable to again cover the subject. Copies of said report, and of the minutes and proceedings of the Board, may be examined by those interested in the office of the clerk of the Board of Examiners.

After having been in special session for four days, from the

27th day of December, 1909, until and including the 30th day of December, 1909, Senate Bill Number 1 was duly and regularly passed and approved, which amended said Chapter 63, Laws of 1909, to the extent of authorizing this Board to issue additional bonds of the character above mentioned, to the extent of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, thus making the total fund available for the construction of said additions with the use of granite, in accordance with the plans and specifications adopted, the sum of six hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Thereafter, and on December 31, 1909, this Board called upon Messrs. Link & Haire, the architects in charge of the construction of said additions, and thereupon fully and carefully considered the changes necessary to be made in order to permit of the use of granite in the construction of said proposed additions; and on the 4th day of January, 1910, a call for bids for furnishing granite was duly and regularly prepared and ordered published, and a full and complete understanding had with the general contractors, Gagnon & Company, of Billings, respecting the modification of the construction contract necessitated by the change in building material.

On the 3rd day of February, 1910, bids for the furnishing of granite in accordance with the plans and specifications were duly and regularly publicly opened, pursuant to call, and it having been found that the bid of T. Kain and Sons, of Helena, Montana, was the lowest and best bid, the contract was thereupon awarded to them for the furnishing of granite. This bidder furnished three samples, and sample number three, which is quarried in Jefferson County, near Clancy, was the one accepted and approved by the Board, and for the same, delivered on the ground and cut and ready to set, they are to be paid the sum of $192,890.00.

The board having concluded that the space necessary to be used for restaurant purposes at the state capitol would be too costly in the additions to the capitol, and that a restaurant within the building was undesirable, and that such space could hereafter be devoted to better advantage for office room; and considering the fact that the restaurant would only be in use sixty days in every two years, it was therefore concluded to construct a separate building for restaurant purposes, and accordingly plans and specifications were duly and regularly

prepared by Messrs. Link & Haire, adopted and approved by the Board, and a call for bids duly and regularly prepared and published on the 23rd day of February, 1910, and thereafter, on the 2nd day of April, 1910, bids for the construction of such restaurant building were publicly opened, pursuant to call, and on the 22nd day of April, 1910, the contract was duly and regularly awarded to Frank Jacoby and Sons, of Helena, Montana, as being the best and lowest bidders for the performance of said work, their bid and contract for the construction of said restaurant building complete being the sum of five thousand dollars.

On the 30th day of November, 1909, William V. Murray, of Butte, Montana, was duly and regularly selected by the Board as superintendent of the Capitol Building construction representing this Board and the State of Montana, and his salary fixed at the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars per year. Pursuant to order and direction of the Board, he reported for duty and entered upon the performance of his work on the 1st day of April, 1910, and ever since has been occupying the position of State Superintendent of Building Construction. Mr. Murray is a man who is eminently fitted for the work, because of former experience in supervising public buildings, and his work has been generally very satisfactory.

The Board feels greatly indebted to the Northern Pacific Railway Company, the Great Northern Railroad, and to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, for having made special rates for the shipping of building material to the state to be used in the construction of the additions, which special rate is wholly consistent with the Interstate Commerce Law and the rulings of the Interstate Commerce Commission,—the shipments being to the State of Montana for use in the construction of a public building. The freight reduction thus obtained is of great benefit and advantage to the Board in executing the trust delegated to it.

During the early spring, construction work was somewhat retarded; first, because of the extensive equipment installed by the general contractors, Gagnon & Company, and later on because of the inability of the stone contractors, T. Kain & Sons, to get the stone out as rapidly as needed.

It will be noticed that the building is of superb construction, each of the floors consisting of solid, reinforced concrete,

5 inches to 8½ inches in thickness, and the walls being an average of 24 inches in thickness, made of granite, brick and cement. The additions are entirely fireproof, with the exceptions only of window frames, doors and some of the interior finish. The construction work is a bigger undertaking than was at first anticipated, and this Board now feels that it will do well to have the building fully completed, furnished and ready to occupy by one year from the first day of February, 1911.

Of said bond issues, in all there have been issued and placed to date, bonds amounting to the sum of $325,000.00. A larger amount of the bonds authorized for the construction of the additions to the Capitol were not issued and placed at once so that a saving of interest might be made; and consequently the amount of bonds already issued have been only issued and placed from time to time as needed. Of the total amount of $325,000.00 which has so been issued and placed there was expended up to the 12th day of December, 1910, a total of two hundred thirty-seven thousand, seven hundred thirty-eight and eighty-seven one-hundredths ($237,738.87) dollars. The expenditures were made for the following purposes:

Excavation for foundations	$ 5,043.10
Construction of foundations	13,109.00
Payments made to general contractor	90,061.64
Payments made to stone contractor	101,819.88
Salary and expenses of Superintendent of Construction	2,239.54
Payments to restaurant contractor	5,200.00
Architect's fees	16,844.52
Expenses of Board	761.38
Advertising	2,659.81
Total	$237,738.87

Any person interested will find detailed information concerning all of the subjects herein referred to upon examination of the records and minutes of this Board.

Respectfully submitted,

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS,

By EDWIN L. NORRIS,

President,

ALBERT J. GALEN,

A. N. YODER,

Secretary.

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NON-CIRCULATING